

Message Text

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22

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TAGS: PFOR SOPN GH AO

SUBJ: PRESS REACTION TO STUDENTS' SEMINAR ON NEO-COLONIALISM

REF: ACCRA 0118

1. THE STUDENTS' SEMINAR ON NEO-COLONIALIST PENETRATIONS OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, WHICH BEGAN ON JANUARY 6, CONCLUDED AS SCHEDULED ON JANUARY 9. SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS, IF ANY, OF CONFERENCE HAVE NOT BEEN REVEALED, BUT THE EVENT DID RESULT IN WIDE SYMPATHETIC PRESS COVERAGE OF PROPAGANDISTIC STATEMENTS OF CONFEREES WHO GENERALLY VOICED SUPPORT FOR MPLA AND CRITICISM OF NUMEROUS WESTERN, PARTICULARLY U.S. INSTITUTIONS. GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY WERE ALSO SINGLED OUT IN THESE STATEMENTS AS NEO-COLONIALIST POWERS.

2. OF PARTICULAR NOTE WAS CONVERGENCE OF STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL UNION

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OF GHANAIAAN STUDENTS (NUGS) PRESIDENT H.P. AKROFI CONDEMNING

PEACE CORPS AS A FRONT FOR THE CIA AND AS A DEN OF HEMP SMOKERS, AND HIS ASSERTIONS THAT USIS PUBLICATION QUOTE AMANNEE UNQUOTE CAUSED CONFUSION AMONG GHANIAN STUDENTS IN EUROPE. (COMMENT: QUOTE AMANNEE UNQUOTE IS NOT DISTRUBUTED OUTSIDE GHANA, SO THE REFERENCE TO STUDENTS IN EUROPE IS CONFUSING. ANTOHER PUBLICATION, QUOTE AMANEE UNQUOTE, WHICH NO RELATIONSHIP WITH THE USG AND IS, IN FACT, A LEFTIST PUBLICATION, DOES HAVE A EUROPEAN DISTRIBUTION. THE REFERENCE TO THE USIS PUBLICATIONS MAY THUS BE DUE TO EITHER INNOCENT OR DELIBERATE CONFUSION WITH THE NON-USIS PUBLICATION.) AKROFI ALSO CLAIMED THAT USIS ITSELF IS A NEO-COLONIALIST INSTITUTION AND THAT ITS PRESENCE IN GHANA SHOULD BE EXAMINED. ALSO RECEIVING PRESS PLAY WERE STATEMENTS BY CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE P. PAULO PLEDGING CUBAN SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS IN ANGOLA AND EELSEWHERE, AN UNNAMED PUERTO RICAN DELEGATE'S ATTACK ON U.S. COLONIAL POLICY AND STATEMENT BY UNESCO REP, OLU OGUNNIY, PLEDGING HIS ORGANIZATION'S SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST NEO-COLONIALIST PENETRATIONS OF AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES (NOT FURTHER ELABORATED).

3. THE STUDENT SEMINAR COINCIDED WITH COVERAGE OF NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL EVENTS WHICH, WHEN PROTRAYED BY PRESS IN CONCERT WITH SEMINAR'S RHETORIC, RESULTED IN MOST INTENSE ANTI-AMERICAN ATMOSPHERE IN THE PRESS WE HAVE SEEN IN SEVERAL MONTHS. THESE EVENTS INCLUDED NIGERIAN PUBLICATIONS OF U.S. NOTE ON ANGOLA, REVELATIONS CONCERNING CIA AND ALLEGATIONS OF DEEPENING U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA, AS WELL AS ARTICLES, EDITORIALS AND LETTERS REBUFFING AMERICAN RESEARCHERS CLAIMS THAT UP TO FIFTY PERCENT OF ALL GHANAIAANS ARE SUFFERERS OR POTENIAL SUFFERERS OF SICKLE CELL ANEMIA.

4. CONCLUSION OF SEMINAR ALSO BROUGHT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT NUGS ABSORBED TWO EUROPEAN-BASED GHANAIAIAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATINS: THE BRITISH-BASED GHANAIAIAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATION AND THE WEST GERMAN-BASED CENTRAL UNION OF GHANAIAIAN STUDENTS IN EUROPE (CUGSE).
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